

# HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

July 2019

HARCOURT NEWS – Edition 62

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Online: [harcourt.vic.au/news](http://harcourt.vic.au/news)

## Harcourt Winter Solstice



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### DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 3rd of the month. The deadline for submissions is the 24th of the month prior. Advertisers and community groups will be sent reminder emails. **There is no edition in January.**



Photo by Richard Baxter



It was great to see such a large turnout of people at the Harcourt Valley Vineyards celebrating the shortest day of the year on the Winter Solstice.

Many thanks go to Kye, Quinn, Marie and Barb for hosting the event and putting a torch to a 4-years-in-construction bonfire.

Thanks also to Harcourt performers John and Cath who performed as Summer Rain

entertaining the crowd with classics from the 50s, 60s and 70s. They were a big hit with the kids, as was entertainer Tim Tim who impressed young and old with oversized bubbles.

*Continued on page 2*



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA  
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**MEMBER 2018**



## Harcourt Progress Association

### No Weeds Here!

On Sunday June 16th, a band of five energetic volunteers managed to clear the roundabout of weeds.

The Adopt a Roadside Coordinator Sha Cordingley said, "The roundabout is looking so much better; from now on it will be much easier to maintain with regular working bees and a spraying regime. We are looking forward to the July 7th working bee when we will complete the planting of the roundabout."

The Harcourt Progress Association began talking to VicRoads about beautifying the roundabout in 2017. With the help of a grant from VicRoads plus their oversight, the HPA was able to engage the services of landscape architects Pollen Studio. Flynn Hart, on behalf of Pollen, spent considerable time above and beyond what was required to assist with the project. Since VicRoads has put bollards on the south side of the roundabout (to prevent illegal parking next to the roundabout), the amount of rubbish in the area has decreased dramatically.

Some volunteers have worked extremely long hours and used their own machinery to get the gravel and rocks delivered and in place. These include Buzz (Brian) Nunn and Andrew Mierisch of the Victorian Miniature Railway. They did much of the groundwork in 2018. The coordination of the project from HPA was provided by Secretary, Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns.

It is proposed that regular two-monthly working bees will continue to see the roundabout well maintained.

The roundabout is divided into 8 wedges. In a flash of brilliance HPA has issued a challenge for individuals to be a leader and take "a piece of the pie". The leader will form a group to carry out regular maintenance on their roundabout wedge. So far, two people have taken up the challenge – Doug Falconer and David Heath. So there are 6 more wedges going begging – will you take up the challenge?



Sha Cordingley, Shelley Fiddes, Trevor McKay, Ada Milley and Robyn Miller (behind the camera) were justifiably pleased with their weeding efforts at the June working bee on the roundabout.

## The Harcourt Winter Solstice

*Continued from page 1 ...*

The Harcourt Winter Solstice was presented by the Harcourt Progress Association with funding support from the Mount Alexander Shire's Community Grants program. The HPA recognises that community events are a powerful way to strengthen community and bring people together in celebration. The Harcourt Twilight Markets were another great example, providing a place and an opportunity to showcase our town, support our local producers and catch up with friends, family and neighbours.

We'd love to see more events and we'd love to get more people involved. The more the merrier!

### Harcourt Events and Tourism

The HPA is establishing "Harcourt Events and Tourism", a sub-committee with a specific focus on organising, attracting and supporting events and tourism opportunities which benefit our community. We are recruiting people who would like to get involved in the planning, promotion and participation of these events. We need people to help re-convene the next season of the Twilight Market which will re-commence in October. We'd love to get folk on board to help plan the Spring Blossom Festival to be held on the Spring Equinox in September where next year's Applefest will also be launched.

Interested? Please contact HPA Secretary Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns by email on [takandjak@bigpond.com](mailto:takandjak@bigpond.com) or telephone 0425 323 005.



## Planting Harcourt Roundabout

**Sunday July 7**

**10 am to 12 pm**

**Meet at the end of Station Street**

**Morning tea provided.**

**Call Sha for details:**

**0422 206 361**

# Harcourt Progress Association

**Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, 24th July, 2019**

**6.30 pm at the  
Harcourt ANA Hall**

**Catering provided**

**All welcome**

## La Larr Ba Gauwa Mountain Bike Park Traffic Impact Assessment

DELWP have commissioned a survey on the impact on parking and traffic caused by the Mountain Bike Park. The results will go to inform Mount Alexander Shire Council.

The survey results need to be in by 22nd July.

Hard copies will be available at the Service Station and at Goldfields Track Café, please leave them in the envelope provided. The survey is anonymous.

OR you can fill it out on line:

The survey is available at:

[harcourt.vic.au/harcourt-traffic-impact-survey-docx](http://harcourt.vic.au/harcourt-traffic-impact-survey-docx)

Once you're done, email it to:

[pauline.m.murtagh@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:pauline.m.murtagh@delwp.vic.gov.au)

## Editorial — Change

The “winds of change” is a common saying which we all understand. We are not always comfortable with change but it comes regardless, and how we respond is all important. Do we let it run over us, do we fight it or do we grapple with it and try to get the best out of it?

It's now 6 years since community meetings were held with Council Community Development Officers and the guiding document for the Harcourt Progress Association, the Harcourt Community Plan, was produced. The plan lays out important goals for change and improvement in Harcourt, many of which HPA has achieved – not on its own of course – but by working with other groups in the community and with Council. One of the most significant developments from the plan was the establishment of *Harcourt News/The Core*.

***... it is possible that for  
October 2019 there will not  
be an edition of The Core as I  
will not be available. Is there  
anyone out there who would  
like to put their skills forward  
to assist, even just for the  
October edition?***

As the HPA prepares for the AGM in July, the Executive is looking to step down; all positions will be declared vacant. Personally I would like to focus my efforts on *The Core* and am prepared to stay on the Committee but not as Chair. You can read more about the changes proposed for HPA on page 4.

Here at *The Core*, we are excited about our new partnership with the Heritage Centre which has generously shared some space at the ANA Hall for us to house our new photocopier. This means a different way of working for our volunteers, who will be learning to operate the printer as well as delivering the final product. I believe the partnership with Heritage and HPA to be a rich one, built on mutual effort and respect, which has come out of close involvement by HPA representatives on the Applefest Committee.

At *The Core*, we have discussed succession a number of times. We really do need to build up our numbers and share our skills so that absences and retirements can be covered. We have a great team in Bernie Schultz (layout), Genevieve Ward (advertising) and Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns (writing and editing). Personally, I would appreciate sharing the editing work with another person or persons. I am also looking for assistance with reporting on news and events.

Now we get to the “pointy end” – it is possible that for October 2019 there will not be an edition of *The Core* as I will not be available. Is there anyone out there who would like to put their skills forward to assist, even just for the October edition?

As we head towards the AGM on July 24, I invite you again to consider joining the Progress Association Committee. Thank you for your support of the Association and for *The Core* and I can honestly say I'm looking forward to those “winds of change.”

Robyn Miller



Thank you Harcourt Heritage Centre for accommodating the new photocopier for *The Core*. Volunteers from both organisations were delighted to see the new machine in place and ready for use.



## Harcourt Progress Association AGM

Join the Harcourt Progress Association on Wednesday 24th July at the ANA Hall as we look back over the past 12 months and make plans for the coming year.

Members of the HPA Executive have recently met with a number of Harcourt community groups to understand the needs and challenges they face. We are keen to see groups working more closely together to strengthen our contribution to the Harcourt community. Working closely with the Harcourt Lions we are hoping to convene a Harcourt Community Forum where groups can come together, discuss their current projects and explore how groups and individuals can help progress projects. Stay tuned for more information...

Another key change for the HPA will be an increased focus on supporting sub committees and working groups to progress key aspirations, including:

**COMMUNICATIONS AND THE CORE:** lead by Editor Robyn Miller, the Communications Sub-Committee will continue to support, guide and grow the monthly publication of the Core and broader community communications.

**HARCOURT EVENTS AND TOURISM:** lead by Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns with a specific focus on organising, attracting

and supporting events and tourism opportunities which benefit our community.

**ADOPT A ROADSIDE:** lead by Sha Cordingley who will continue to lead work groups to maintain and improve the Harcourt Roundabout and other key entrances to town.

**HARCOURT PLAY SPACE:** lead by Bryan and Tricia Balmer with representatives from council and community, the group continues to monitor and support the construction of the new Harcourt Play Space.

Can you help? We are keen to find your passion, interest and skills and match it with a community project. If any of these projects interest you, come along to the AGM to find out more, or contact HPA Chair Robyn Miller on email [rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com](mailto:rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com) or by telephone: 0467 670 271

Interested in joining the HPA Steering Committee? All positions will be vacated and we are seeking new members to take on Executive roles.

The HPA AGM is on Wednesday 24th July at the ANA Hall from 6.30 pm. Everyone is welcome and catering will be provided. We hope you can make it.

## Australia Day Honour for former Harcourt Resident Ross Salathiel

Former local Ross Salathiel was awarded an Ambulance Service Medal on Australia Day 2019 for his contribution in the Ambulance Services in and across Victoria. He is only one of 17 members to receive this award. The Ambulance Service Medal recognises distinguished service by the men and women of Australia's ambulance organisations and is awarded by the Governor-General on recommendation from the appropriate Commonwealth, state and territory ministers.

Ross has always been a 'thinker outside the square'; when he sees something needs to be done, he does it without thinking of any credit for himself. In 2001, Ross was awarded the Junior Citizen of the year at the Harcourt and the Castlemaine Australia Day ceremonies on the same day.

Ross was raised in Harcourt and attended the Harcourt

Primary school and then the Castlemaine Secondary College. In his younger days he was a junior fireman and a boundary umpire in the Maryborough Castlemaine Football League. In 1995 Ross joined St John Ambulance in Castlemaine as a Cadet member serving around four and a half years before heading to university in Melbourne. His time with St John in Castlemaine would certainly have influenced his direction into the Ambulance services as he was a talented First Aider at a young age. Ross took permanent placement in Traralgon where he now resides.

Ross works in the Baw Baw Shire, especially in the smaller communities such as Noojee, Walhalla, Rawson and others, which have no access to hospitals or medical facilities, and where an ambulance is 20 minutes or more away. He aims to make sure they have defibrillators, and that people know how to use them. He also works in smaller community hospitals to help up skill their staff on some of the latest skills needed in patient care in emergencies.

With 15 years in the Ambulance service, Ross' list of achievements also includes the rollout to paramedics of 'clot-busting' drugs to heart attack patients. This procedure was previously only ever done in hospitals. This is only a short coverage of what Ross has done in the community and Ambulance Victoria, but it is clear his award is very well deserved.



*The front of the Ambulance Service Medal.*



*Australia Day 2019: Ross Salathiel with Her Excellency, the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria.*

*Ken McDougall*



## Harcourt Preschool Enrolments Open for 2020

Enrolments are now being taken for Harcourt Preschool for 2020 for both 3 and 4 year old groups.

Please call by the kinder to pick up a hard copy enrolment or alternatively enrol through the attached YMCA electronic link.

Places are filling so we encourage prospective families to do this as soon as possible. We welcome any interested families to make a time to call in and view our wonderful kinder.

Thank you

Lisa Grey

Educational Leader



## 2020 ENROLMENTS OPEN

3rd June 2019



Join our kindergarten community



### KEY DATES

**3 JUNE 2019**

Enrolments open

**30 JUNE 2019**

Closing date for first round enrolments

**1 JULY 2019**

Enrolments after this date go into second round offers

**31 JULY 2019 ONWARDS**

Enrolments still open



- NO FEE PAYMENT until March 2020
- NO FEES for kindergarten for eligible families (see our website for details)

### HOW TO ENROL

- 1 Enrol online at [www.earlyyears.ymca.org.au](http://www.earlyyears.ymca.org.au) or
- 2 Ask your local kindergarten or YMCA Ballarat for an enrolment form



**NEED HELP  
or HAVE  
QUESTIONS?**



Visit the website: [www.earlyyears.ymca.org.au](http://www.earlyyears.ymca.org.au)



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**Harcourt's Little Library**  
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# Harcourt Uniting Church

The anniversary of the formation of the Uniting Church in Australia was remembered on 23rd June. Members of the Harcourt congregation recalled highlights of the forty-two years since 1977 when the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches joined together.

It is always interesting to hear the story of other people's experiences. Members of the congregation have come from a diversity of backgrounds and have real passion. Some people have worked in overseas postings and in remote indigenous communities. Some members find their church is the springboard for activism on behalf of refugees, while others work assiduously for *Uniting*, the domestic welfare outreach of the State-wide church.

Those who brought the Uniting Church into being in 1977 could not have foreseen the scope of the changes wrought in what is a relatively short time. They stated at

the time that 'a new way forward is being opened for us'. Even how we 'do' church has been radically changed from the stiff and formal minister-centric to a relaxed style where participation by all members is encouraged.

The Uniting Church monthly news has changed too. In 1977 it was a black and white newspaper, now it is a colourful magazine called *Crosslight*. This month's *Crosslight* contains a story of a legendary kindness by a taxi driver who was driving a young wife to hospital when her husband had been severely injured in a workplace accident. Another story, chosen to mark World Refugee Day, tells of two Vietnamese women who had to flee their country in 1983 in fear of their lives, while a third article is an interview with a Disability Inclusion Advocate. I find that article really thought provoking as it poses some questions that challenge the behaviour of the 'fully-abled' majority.

The main article though, is about the newly appointed Moderator, Denise

Liersch. The reporter put it to Denise (rather clumsily) that church is not a group that society seems much interested in listening to. Denise's answer is instructive. She said: *"Being in a minority group is a gift because it allows you to stay on the margins and recognise that's where the church ought to be. It keeps the church in touch with the reality of life for those of us who get left behind by the mainstream. This is in line with the Hebrew Scriptures, which emphasise how a society is marked by how well we include those on the margins. You can be something little that has an influence way beyond its size. We are not called to be big and successful; we're called to live faithfully."*

The congregation's regular contributor, Jan Jenkin, is enjoying a well-deserved break in warmer parts and will be back at the keyboard, (of both the organ and the computer) next month.

George Milford



## Councillor Comment

Hi all,

I hope this finds you well.

I have been travelling on the train lately. While most of you are tucked up in bed, I am battling to wake up at 5.30 am: get dressed, drive through the fog and kangaroos to catch the 6.29 am train. I'm always teased by the fact that if people from Bendigo can do it, we must be able to do it from Castlemaine. There's a loyal band of regular travellers who catch the train at the "Maine". A few cheery faces, but I think most would rather be at home!

The travel is do-able, but the question is: What is the motivation? Maybe it is the mounting bills, the cost of living or is it the lure of increased knowledge? At my age – well I do admit to being over 60 – it has all happened by accident. I was scanning the employment advertisements and something caught my attention: "Client Side Project Management" ... Sounds good! A week and a half later I found myself back on the train.

Is there a shortage of Engineers/Project Managers? Maybe.

Am I guilty of keeping a young person out of a job? That is a concern.

Are young people interested in maths science? "STEM" is the current buzz-word.

What I can say is: Engineering as a career has been very good to me. I have been fortunate to work across Australia and overseas and I have learnt a great deal from those experiences.

My advice to young people is, follow your dreams. Don't miss a chance or an opportunity.

On the local front, I attended the community Solstice Bonfire on the weekend. Congratulations to all concerned. The weather was a bit doubtful but the event was well attended and enjoyed by all.

On the grapevine I hear some great work is being done by our community members and consultants on the Stanley Park North playground. I do look

forward to seeing the final plans. Thank you to those who have given their time to the project so far. It's very exciting. It seems there is a lot in the budget for our community. The good news is, that yes there is.

We are experiencing some complex planning issues at Council and not everyone can get the outcome they want. Our planners make recommendations based on Government policy and the planning scheme. I would like to see some changes in the scheme, but that does not happen overnight. Please remember when Council makes a decision; it is the outcome of informed debate. This is real democracy at work. Of course Council decisions can be contested at VCAT. The message for anyone buying land with the intention of developing it is that they need to understand what the zoning is in the planning scheme.

Best regards to all, Tony.

AG Cordy  
0439 742434

## Wetland Planting Preparation Working Bee July 28th

Landcare and Harcourt Valley Primary School have been working together now for nearly two years on the wetland near the freeway roundabout. The next event for the students will be a planting session on Tuesday August 13th, from 2.15–3.15 pm. The planting will be a registered National Tree Day event.

In order to make the planting fun and easy for the children Landcare members will be digging 400 holes before hand and marking them with one stake so planting can happen faster. This will happen at a working bee on Sunday July 28th, 10–12 pm. On the planting day in August, the students will be able to pop the small plants into the prepared holes and then hammer the rest of the stakes in and fit the protective guard. Landcare members who are able will be on hand for the school day planting.

The plants which are all local species are on order and will be ready and waiting. Nicole Howie the Educator attached to the program will run a session with the students on correct planting methods and explain about the type of plants useful in a wetland.

This program has been funded by the North Central Catchment Authority.



On June 23, a small band of Harcourt Valley Landcare members worked on the north side of Picnic Gully Road to remove stakes and guards from trees planted there as part of the preparation for the La Larr Ba Gauwa Mountain Bike Park. Approximately 2000 trees were planted and most have been successfully established. Over time the plastic guards have started to break down and blow away, so the group felt it was time for a tidy up. They estimated that they got about halfway up the length of the plantings – so there's another working bee just waiting to be done!

### Love your pet? Send us a picture!

Send your photos to the editor:  
[news@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:news@harcourt.vic.au)

with a statement about why you love your pet.

## Walking Tour

Castlemaine District Community Health's June walking tour was held in Harcourt, where local George Milford showed some of Harcourt's sights to 30 attendees.

The approximately four-kilometre walk started at the ANA Hall and Museum, and one of the first stops was to show and explain the craze of geocaching. A small waterproof container that contained a logbook was hidden in the bushes. The geocacher signs the log with their established code name and dates it, in order to prove that they found the cache. Some had left sentimental trinkets.

The group then walked to the site of the Victorian Miniature Railway project being completed in partnership with VCAL students from Castlemaine Secondary College. This site had great views of the Harcourt valley and the mountains surrounding it and part of the walk here was along the railway track (with sleepers made of recycled plastic).



A well-deserved cuppa at the end of the walk was available at the ANA Hall and Museum. The next walking tour will be in Maldon on July 31st.

Contact Castlemaine District Community Health for further details: phone 54791000

*by Liza Shaw, Health Promotion Officer*



Driving through the bush is a pleasure at this time of year because of the green growth brought by the rain. A lovely wattle with creamy coloured flowers has been out during June and into July. Botanist and President of Harcourt Valley Landcare has identified it as Spreading Wattle (*Acacia genistifolia*) which is local to the district. It would also be attractive as shelter for little birds as it is quite prickly.

For all your banking needs

# Maldon & District Community Bank® Branch

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As you know, last month we celebrated giving \$3million back to the community over the last 20 years.

As part of the celebration, the board have commissioned a series of short films to tell the stories of the people behind the groups and projects we partner with and support, and (hopefully) Harcourt will be included!

To produce the films, we engaged local creative team Nicole and Simon of Independent Creatives from Newstead.

It's been fun working with them, because they really "got" the challenge of telling our "Community Bank®" story—i.e. the subtle but crucial distinction between the community-owned branches of the Bendigo Bank (like our local branch in Maldon) whose profits go back into the community, and the corporate branches of the Bendigo Bank (like the branch in Castlemaine) whose profits go back to shareholders.

Of course, as a Bendigo Bank customer you can bank at any branch in the Australia-wide network, it's where your accounts are held that makes the difference.

Simon, who directed the films said, "We've been really inspired by the dedicated people who run these projects. Their hard work has a positive impact that spreads through the whole community and that's the idea behind the films. The message is: keep your



*Terry Willis of the Harcourt Fruit Fly Action Group was interviewed as part of the filming of a series of short films about the Maldon & District Community Bank® grants to community groups.*

money local and you'll see the benefit on your doorstep!"

Simon and his co-filmmaker Miles are also the creative force behind the recent filming done in Harcourt for the Fruit Fly project funded by the Victorian Government, which included the Harcourt Fruit Fly Action Group.

The Maldon & District Community Bank® also contributed \$500 to the

Harcourt Fruit Fly project so hopefully the Harcourt Fruit Fly Action Group will also show up in the video—fingers crossed!

The films are not quite finished, but when they are, you'll be able to see them by hitting like and following the Maldon & District Community Bank® Facebook page.

*Katie Finlay, Director, Maldon & District Community Bank®*



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When The Core recently visited the VMR site, on a day when the VCAL students were there, students were set to work on a range of activities. Two of the students working on the platform area were excited to see that the piece of granite they were trying to remove had a large crack in it and could be levered out. They discussed the breakthrough with Colin Mierisch one of the VMR volunteers who is a skilled engineer. In the photo, Colin is listening intently and he quickly made a decision once the boys had finished explaining their ideas about how to extract the granite.



"We are 'that close!'"

Colin who has constructed the clock for the station at VMR (see June edition of *The Core*) has also been considering the switching mechanisms for the tracks. He made the manually operated points lever (see picture above, right). It took him two days to machine the lever. He said, "The inventor of this was a person called Ford, so it's called a Ford lever. There will be 100 sets of points on the tracks. Not all of them will be manual; some will be pneumatic or electric and can be operated from

the signal box. The manual ones involve the driver getting down from the engine and switching the direction of the tracks with the Ford lever."



Colin Mierisch contemplates the Ford points lever which took him two days to manufacture.

VCAL students from Castlemaine Secondary College are being well mentored by school staff and volunteers from the Lions and the Victorian Miniature Railway. Students being taught building and construction skills are enthusiastic and are learning to operate a range of equipment and are also putting in hours of physical labour. Some students are aiming to get qualifications in automotive, engineering, and building and construction. Some hope to go on to full apprenticeships, after their secondary studies.

The goal is to have the station constructed by early December. On July 5 the site will be visited by local MP for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards, who will be representing James Merlino, the Minister for Education.

## Netting nearly complete at Thompsons Orchard

Southern Cross Netting from Orange, New South Wales is back in Harcourt to complete enclosing the new orchard on the east side of Dann's Road. Readers may remember the photo, in the May edition of *The Core*, of the helicopter laying the main support wires.

Currently the workers are completing the netting roof. When complete, the entire 6 hectares of the orchard will be enclosed, with "doorway" openings in the straight walls.

Workers first unwind a bail of net and thread a wire down each side of the it. The net is then picked up and draped along the main wires and fixed to them with clips, it is then is strained and fixed in place.





# Harcourt CFA

## Winter is Here, Summer is on its Way

The cold nights and frosty mornings of June let us know that winter has arrived. Interestingly, during the first half of the month there were no turnouts for the brigade, which is quite normal. The second half of the month saw turnouts jump to seven which is abnormally high for winter and more like summer statistics. Most of these were minor requiring only investigation by the brigade or supporting neighbouring brigades to their incident. The type of calls were relevant for winter - being alarms, motor vehicle accidents and incidents around bonfires and burn offs. Taking the time to register bonfires and burning off by phoning 1800 668 511 helps reduce the number of times brigades are called out to these types of incidents.

### CFA Winter Safety Messages

There have been three specific safety messages promoted by CFA released in June.

#### *Bin and landfill fires*

Residents are warned to be extra cautious when disposing of ash, batteries and chemical drums.

Over past weeks, there has been a spate of fires across the City of Greater Bendigo in household rubbish bins, garbage trucks and landfill sites. These have been caused by ashes from wood fires and lithium batteries. To prevent these fires residents are advised to not place these items in with general household waste.

#### *Bedroom Fire Safety*

The greatest risk of fire is at night when we are asleep. When we sleep we can lose our sense of smell. Without a working smoke alarm you may not wake up or wake up too late to escape.

#### *Electric Blanket Safety Tips*

- Turn electric blankets on 30 minutes before getting into bed and turn off once you are in bed.
- Never get into bed with your electric blanket turned on.
- Keep electric blankets flat with the controls at the side of the bed.
- Regularly check electric blankets for broken and worn wiring.
- Never put weight (people, pets or objects) on the bed while the electric blanket is on.
- Never fold an electric blanket as it may cause damage to the wiring.
- Never use an electric blanket on a water bed.

#### *General Tips*

- Smoking in bed is very dangerous. Do NOT smoke in bed.
- Only purchase heat bags with instructions and use them in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure powered electrical appliances like hair dryers, hair straighteners, laptops, iPads and iPhones are not left on bedding
- Never leave candles burning unattended in a bedroom.
- Smoke Alarms must be installed outside sleeping areas and extra smoke alarms should also be installed inside any bedroom where someone sleeps with the door closed.

### Kitchen and cooking fires:

The most common fires in the home occur in the kitchen. To reduce the risk of a fire starting follow these recommendations: remember to always supervise children in the kitchen; never leaving cooking unattended; remove items that can catch fire away from heat sources and keep cooking appliances clean.

### Product Recalls check your phone charger

There have been a number of product recalls publicised in the media including two types of phone chargers. The Coles Mobile Universal Wall Charger sold through the Coles chain of stores and the AGL Promotional Wireless Phone Charger distributed through some Melbourne Victory events both have the potential to overheat and start a fire. For more details on these and other product recalls visit [www.productsafety.gov.au](http://www.productsafety.gov.au)

As we have now had the shortest day of the year, this means that summer is on its way!

It is never too early to start thinking and planning about what steps you can take to reduce the risk of fire in Victoria during summer.

In the meantime, stay warm and stay safe.

*Tyrone Rice*  
Brigade Community Safety Coordinator

### From July 1st, E-waste cannot go into any bin in the State of Victoria

E-waste is essentially any item with a plug, battery or power cord that is no longer working or wanted. It covers a whole range of items from phones and refrigerators to fluorescent light tubes. All shires have procedures in place for the disposal of E-waste that have been publicised in local papers but if you missed it, then check out the Council's web site or contact them for further information.

*Phil Carlyle*

0408 128 313  
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## Do Stuff that Matters with Intrepid Landcare

Discover adventure with purpose, meet other young people in the community, hear from inspiring speakers and learn leadership tips to do stuff that matters: an epic Intrepid Landcare Leadership Retreat is coming to the Mt Alexander region in August 2019. The aim is to inspire and empower passionate young people to step up and lead on issues that are important to the local community and themselves.

Asha Bannon, Mount Alexander Region Landcare Facilitator, says 'The retreat is open to anyone aged 16 to 35 years, who is up for making a difference and having some good fun doing it.'

'The leadership retreat will be the perfect place to connect to other young like-minded people, hear from awesome inspiring speakers, get your hands dirty with an action-packed weekend of adventure, conservation, cultural immersion and discovering what opportunities exist across the Mt Alexander region with Landcare.'

'As a young staff member supporting Landcare I can see the absolute benefit of connecting young people to the Landcare movement. In the time I've been involved I've learnt so much about the local environment and agriculture and am passionate about opening up more opportunities for more young people to experience what Landcare can offer.'

'Young people who go through our programs often go on to create exciting experiences other young people want to show up to which make an impact and are pretty fun and adventurous too,' says co-founder of Intrepid Landcare Australia Megan Rowlatt. 'Already we are seeing great energy and creative solutions coming from these young people on some of the most pressing environmental issues of our time.'

To book your place, fill out an application form by 14 July 2019 via the Intrepid Landcare website ([intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander](http://intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander)).

Follow Intrepid Landcare on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/landcareintrepid/follow](https://www.facebook.com/landcareintrepid/follow)) for live updates about the retreat.

**What:** Intrepid Landcare Leadership Retreat – Mount Alexander region

**When:** Friday 9 August to Sunday 11 August 2019

**Where:** Castlemaine VIC

**Bookings:** [intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander](http://intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander)

To make these opportunities accessible to as many young people as possible, attendees will be generously supported by North Central Catchment Management Authority and Connecting Country through funding from the Victorian Landcare Program. This covers all catering, cabin accommodation and a carefully packaged leadership development program tailored to meet the needs of young people passionate about the environment.

## LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

The question with which we must grapple,  
Confronting us here in this chapel,  
Is do we believe  
That story of Eve  
And Adam, the snake and the apple.

*With the verandah nearly complete, and a fresh wide and flat footpath at its front, the Produce Store is getting closer to opening.*



# Do Stuff That Matters

INTREPID LANDCARE LEADERSHIP RETREAT  
MT ALEXANDER REGION, VICTORIA

Friday August 9 – Sunday August 11 2019

Location: Castlemaine Gardens Holiday Park, Castlemaine VIC

This retreat is free and open to young people 16 – 35 years

Application close July 14

More info: [intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander](http://intrepidlandcare.org/events/mtalexander)

This retreat is supported by North Central Catchment Management Authority and Connecting Country through funding from the Victorian Landcare Program

We acknowledge we will be meeting on Dja Dja Wurrung Country and pay our respects to the traditional custodians of this land

*Intrepid Landcare*

Discover adventure with purpose, connect with other young people, hear from inspiring speakers & learn leadership tips to do stuff that matters





# Harcourt Bowls Keeps Active in Winter

## More from the AGM

### New Life Member Joan Jenkin

Also retiring from the Board this year was Joan Jenkin, who, for the past 15 years, has diligently served the Club as Treasurer. As a member for more than twenty years she has also served on many committees and is a three-time Club Champion.

For this dedicated contribution to the Club, members voted overwhelmingly at the recent Annual General Meeting to grant **Life Membership** to Joan. A presentation was made to Joan at the Club early in June.



## Office Bearers

The Office Bearers Elected at the AGM are: President: Russell Maltby; Vice Presidents: Ken Tribe and Heather Braid; Treasurer: Judy Ewing; Secretary: Chris Anderson.

## Friday Foodies

Ozzie will have a break during June and July, however Friday Foodies will continue each fortnight with a more casual menu – think fish 'n' chips, burgers or pizza.

Notices will be on the Board at the club.

All welcome!

The next Friday Foodies is July 5th – hamburgers and chips. We will continue each fortnight after that in a similar 'relaxed' mode while Ozzie is having a break – possibly resume sometime in August or September when the numbers increase.

### The dates for the following Friday Foodies:

July 19th

August 2nd

August 16th

August 30th



### Grow Great Fruit

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- ① Get timely tips for your fruit trees in our free **Weekly Fruit Tips** newsletter

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# Harcourt Valley Primary School

## Term 2 Ends

The second term of 2019 ended on a very positive note for Harcourt Valley Primary School. Over the term the Principal Andrew Blake and the staff have been emphasising actions which show integrity and respect. At the final assembly of the term he congratulated students for demonstrating this behaviour in classrooms and in the playground. He also thanked parents, volunteers and teachers who assisted with the Extra Curricular Program during the term.

Students reported on a range of sporting activities which they participate in outside school. A big line up of students waited their turn to relate their sporting participation in the previous week. Athletics, soccer, football, and netball all featured. Unfortunately one young player broke a collarbone in a footy matches. The Auskick players and the under 11s and 14s footy teams were looking forward to a Hot Dog night after assembly to mark the end of term. Attendance awards and class prizes were given out. Finally Mr Blake reminded students that Bike Education would be coming in third term, at which the students gave a spontaneous cheer.

*Picture: Grades 3 and 4 were inspired by their visit to the Tudors to Windsors Exhibition at the Bendigo Art Gallery.*



## Funds available to get older people moving

Did you know that groups in Mount Alexander Shire have the opportunity to receive a share of \$106,000 for up to two projects that will help get older residents up and moving?

The Loddon Mallee Move It project aims to reach over 70,000 people over the age of 65 in the Loddon Mallee region, offering new and modified sport and recreation activities, strengthening partnerships and workforce capacity, while raising awareness of the benefits of regular physical activity.

Sporting groups, recreation providers, primary health care groups and other organisations are encouraged to check their eligibility to apply for funding to support inactive people aged 65 and over to be more active.

The project is funded by the Australian Government's Move It AUS Better Ageing Grant through Sport Australia.

"We know that ours is an ageing population and we have a greater proportion of older residents than other parts of regional Victoria," said Lisa Knight, Director Corporate and Community Services, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

"Unfortunately across the Loddon Mallee region, older people have poorer health and wellbeing than the state average," said Ms Knight.

"There are higher levels of obesity and chronic disease. Many older people have low levels of physical activity.

"Through Move It, we hope to get more of our older people moving and enjoying the benefits of regular physical activity."

The expression of interest process is now open and will run until Friday 26 July.

Those interested in applying for funding are encouraged to visit the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website at [www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/MoveIt](http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/MoveIt) to check their eligibility and register to attend

an information session held at 10.00am to 2.00pm on Thursday 11 July at La Trobe University in Bendigo.

To discuss your project idea please contact Kevin Pittman, Council's Community Wellbeing Manager, on 5471 1700. All projects must be considered and supported by Council.

Along with Mount Alexander Shire, the other local government areas covered by the \$1.838 million grant include cities of Mildura, Greater Bendigo, Swan Hill and shires of Loddon, Central Goldfields, Campaspe, Gannawarra, Buloke and Macedon Ranges.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Mildura Rural City Council are leading the implementation of the project.

*From a press release*





# Harcourt Heritage Centre

## The Veteran Orchardist

### Oscar Bertuch

Harcourt's Chaplin Orchards are the sole survivor of what, a century ago, was a network of family orchards tended by descendants of veteran orchardist Oscar Bertuch. Oscar Bertuch was a thorough horticulturalist, and he would be proud of his descendants' beautifully kept acreage producing premium quality fruit.

Faced with a choice between devoting his life to horticulture and wasting his life in military service, twenty-five-year-old Oscar chose to leave his native Prussia, arriving in Melbourne aboard the Hamburg ship *Dorothea* in July 1863.

In the early 1860s, Oscar Bertuch was employed as a gardener at 'San Souci' the residence of the Prussian kings at Potsdam, 24 kilometres from Berlin and about 150 kilometres from Oscar's birthplace Sachsen, Altenburg. Sans Souci is an immense park surrounding a number of palatial mansions, designed as 'a picturesque pastoral dream'. In January 1861, Prussia had a new King, William I, who soon set about raising the peacetime army from 150,000 to 200,000 with a plan to boost the annual intake of new recruits from 40,000 to 63,000 by conscription. Queen Victoria visited the Prussian King at this time and it was observed that "the whole court seems occupied at playing soldiers ... perpetually occupied at drilling the young conscripts. The court seems to think of nothing but military matter. This is very sad." When parliament refused the King's military reforms, King William appointed Otto von Bismarck as his Minister President in order to force through the proposals. It is said that Bismarck was an arrogant and pugnacious man who despised negotiation, deciding that Prussia's territorial ambitions would be best pursued militarily.

It was at this time that Oscar Bertuch resolved to emigrate. That he made the very best choice is shown by the fact that Prussia was soon (in 1864) at war with Denmark and (in 1866) with Austria. Following further military victories, King William became Kaiser William of Germany in 1870.

Oscar Bertuch was living in Castlemaine in November 1865 when he applied to become a naturalised citizen. In his affidavit Oscar stated that he intended to settle for life in Victoria. The Governor of Victoria granted permission for the naturalisation on 18th December 1865.

Oscar Bertuch married Annie Parkinson in February 1870. In those early years, Oscar sold vegetables from a stall in the Castlemaine Market. The couple lived at Walmer where they planted fruit trees, grew vegetables and reared a family of seven sons and four daughters. We have not been able to locate Bertuch's Walmer orchard, but newspaper articles infer that it was near the Muckleford Creek in the vicinity of the junction of the Muckleford and Fogarty's Gap Roads.

In 1899, the *Mount Alexander Mail* stated that "O. Bertuch cleared 9/- (shillings) a case for exports of apples and pears" and a later article told how "a consignment of 300 cases of Mr. O. Bertuch's pears topped the market in Brisbane".

From 1890 to 1893 Oscar served as a councillor for the Shire of Maldon. He held office (at various times) as Secretary, Treasurer or Vice President of the Castlemaine District Fruitgrowers Association from 1892 to 1907. The Association, which met monthly, drew orchardists from Campbells Creek, Walmer, Muckleford, Guildford, Harcourt, Vaughan and Tarilta to discuss methods of dealing with codling moth, Queensland fruit fly and fungal diseases. The association had a scheme whereby members

could obtain bluestone (copper sulphate), arsenate of lead, and soda for spraying purposes at a greatly reduced cost. Oscar made many friends in Harcourt through this Association. At one time the *Mount Alexander Mail* reported that 'the veteran Oscar Bertuch' (then aged 69) convened the meeting.

On 6 March 1908, the *Mount Alexander Mail* reported that Messrs Carter & Amos had sold on account of Mr. L. Hocking of Harcourt, to Mr. Charles Bertuch of Walmer, the well-known orchard of 15 acres together with 17 acres of grazing land. Charles was Oscar's second son. In May 1908, he married Dora Amos of Campbells Creek and the couple built a new home 'Glenhope' at their orchard in Faraday Road, Harcourt.

At this time, eldest son Harry Bertuch purchased land at Harcourt North, soon to be followed by brothers Richard, Frank and Paul Bertuch. In 1914 it was stated that Richard, Frank and Paul Bertuch were conjointly planting 30 acres of orchard in what is now known as Chellews Road.

Oscar's thorough grounding in horticulture in his native Prussia was manifested in the training that he gave his six orchardist sons. Bertuch orchards were renowned as vibrant, productive and reliable sources of premium fruit. One son, Arthur, served in the AIF in World War I serving four years in the fight against his father's former homeland. Arthur was a Company Sergeant Major who was awarded the Military Medal.

Oscar and Annie retired from fruit-growing around 1908. They moved into a shingle-roofed timber house, built by William Irvine, which had originally been on the 'Glenhope' property and had been moved to what is now Mills Road East.

In retirement, Oscar Bertuch planted a small orchard plus a number of specimen trees around his home in Mills Road. The trees included a Bunya Bunya, Norfolk Island Pine, Silky Oak, Chinese Windmill Palm, Canadian Poplar and Monterey Cypress. This is a botanical garden in miniature and remnants can still be seen.

Annie and Oscar Bertuch celebrated their golden wedding at the ANA Hall, Harcourt on 7th July 1920. Oscar died in 1921, but his legacy still lives on in his descendants and in the great trees that he planted at his last home.

**This is another in a series of thumbnail sketches of the pioneers. Compiled by Harcourt Heritage Centre with help from notes of the late Mrs. Yvonne Graham. Background material on the situation in Prussia came from "An Uncommon Woman - the Empress Frederick" by Hannah Pakula.**

George Milford



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# Watching the Skies

Watching the skies above Harcourt is a bit of a hobby of mine; the sound of a jet or helicopter usually gets me out of the house to watch it fly over.

## *The Volunteer Air Observers Corp (Australia)*

It is challenging to imagine now, but during World War II there was a system of observation posts, staffed by volunteers, right across the nation. One such observation post was in Harcourt. The Volunteer Air Observers Corp (Australia) was formed on 31 December 1941 to support the Royal Airforce. The observation posts provided information to the RAAF's regional control posts. At its peak in 1944, the Corp had 24,000 members working in 2,656 observation posts. The Corps was wound down as the threat to Australia decreased and finally disbanded in 1946. (Source Wikipedia)

The post in Harcourt was located on the peak of the rise in Barker Street. This rise is to the right of Market Street when looking at the Mount. It was staffed 24 hours a day and the task was to look for suspicious aircraft. The volunteers had silhouette posters, against which planes could be identified. Facilities at the post were rudimentary and it is reported in Heritage Society records that this was so, to the extent that the sum of ten pounds was allocated to improving them.

The hut pictured here, which unfortunately has recently collapsed, was used by the observers to take cover in. It was moved from Barker Street to Mills Road East. It fell down sometime early this year.



## *Flight Radar 24 (Flightradar24)*

In the present day, Harcourt is on many flight paths for planes travelling north-west. I discovered this myself when I first flew to Darwin in 2009. It was a daytime flight; I had a window seat and looked out to see the red and white netting of Montague's orchard directly below. I was also fortunate on that flight to see Lake Eyre filling with water.

Planes with regular flight paths above Harcourt include those going to and from Adelaide, Denpasar, Singapore, Guangzhou and Hangzhou in China, Hong Kong, Dubai and Qatar.

Depending on the weather, wind, and other factors we can get planes from all over the world circling Harcourt.

If you are interested to find out what planes are flying above Harcourt, the App Flightradar24 (yes it's all one word) is easy to use and really opens one's eyes to the number of planes in the air all around the world. If you click on a plane you can usually find out the airline name, the type of plane, where it is flying from and to, including the time it left and the expected arrival time.

## *The Gooney Bird*

Have you seen the Gooney Bird flying over Harcourt? In late summer, in the very clear skies of February, the Gooney Bird flew over and around the Mount several times. And I believe it has been back since. It has a very distinctive sound and shape as it was first built in 1935. The plane flies out of Essendon on chartered flights and is operated by Shortstop Private Jet Charter. If you are interested in finding out more see: [shortstop.com.au/experiences/about-the-dc-3-gooney-bird](http://shortstop.com.au/experiences/about-the-dc-3-gooney-bird)

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# APPLE-GROWING AND FRUIT-DRYING AT HARCOURT

A series of pictures from the Weekly Times  
Saturday 15 May 1909 Page 27,  
via Trove.  
With the original captions.



**THE CO-OPERATIVE FRUIT-DRYING WORKS.**



**PREPARING FOR THE DRYING-ROOM.**

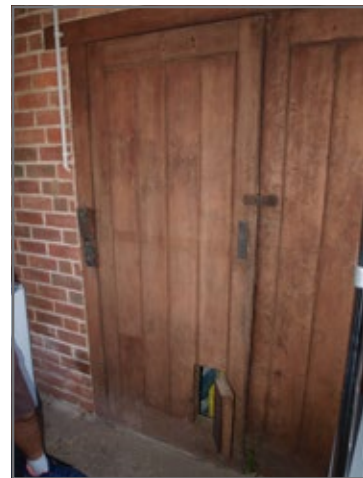


**The Packing Room.**

**... and as it is today**



*The exterior of the apple drying room and the apple drying factory as they are today. The owners of the bakery, Jodie and David Pillinger have kept the apple drying room and restored the factory room.*



*The apple drying room has a very thick door. In a similar manner to the ancient Roman baths, the apple drying room has a floor which is raised so that a fire can be set underneath it. The heat would rise and dry the apples laid out in racks. Jodie said, "There is a story about one of the early bakers, taking naps in the drying room because it was always warm."*



*Donna McMahon is shown in the doorway of the bakery; with a view into the shed which was the apple drying factory.*

# Fireside Chat

## Mapping: Projections, Politics and Poetry

A talk by Jase Haysom,

1:30 Sunday 21st July, ANA Hall

There was a young poet from Nome,  
with marked predilections to roam.

Sadly the muse left her,  
when rhyming cartographer.

Moral, young poets, don't rhyme alone

*author's name withheld by request*

A map (in the common usage of the word) is a graphical representation of the earth's surface. The process of constructing a map is essentially formulaic – a series of defined steps leading to a finished product, just like following a cooking recipe. However each step requires the cartographer to make a number of decisions and these decisions may result in outcomes, deliberate or accidental, that are outside the fundamental requirements of the map.

This talk will look at examples of this effect and the interaction between, politics, poetry and mapping. It sounds a bit over the top, but that's just tongue-in-cheek academia guff. In fact, the talk will be in the easy style of the HVHT 2018 talk – Sidetracks: Mapping and Philosophy – by the same presenter.

During his school days, Jase had a casual interest in mapping. This interest was formalised when he prepared training material and presented lectures on mapping for RedR Australia, a non-government organisation that trains aid workers for overseas deployment. He currently prepares topographical maps for public access and for community groups. Further information and examples of this work are available at [cartography.id.au](http://cartography.id.au).

## What is a three-chain road??

Reader Neil Anderson has always wanted to know the answer to this question. He writes, "Here is one explanation ..."

I enquired as to whether we were on the right road to Harcourt. [Name of town has been changed.]

"Yair," said the man, "keep going until you come to a three-chain road and turn left."

"Until we come to a what? I asked.

"Until you reach a three-chain road. Y'know what a three-chain road is, don'tcha?"

Very hesitantly I replied, "No, I'm afraid I don't."

"Strike a flamin' light," he said. He shook his head. "Struth," he exclaimed, "Y'dunno what a three-chain road is?"

"Look here," I said sharply, "What IS a three-chain road?"

"Bugged if I know," came the surprising reply, "I never went to school."

From the autobiography, *Hello, Mr Melody Man: Lindley Evans Remembers*, published in 1983. For thirty years from 1939, Lindley Evans was featured as "Mr Melody Man" in the ABC Children's Hour and the Argonauts Club. (Wikipedia)

P.S. A three-chain road is an especially wide one along which sheep and cattle are driven when being moved from one place to another.

**Editor's note:** If you Google "three-chain road" you will find there are many in Australia. The closest one I could find is in Walmer. Country and Western singer Lee Kernaghan has an album called "Three Chain Road".

## From Last Month's Core:

### Do you know your Roman Numerals?

#### ANSWERS

Find the date: MDCCXIII  
1713

(Find the name of the Italian Composer who died in this year): Arcangelo Corelli 17 February 1653–8 January 1713)

Find the numbers:

The bar over the number means to multiply by 1000.

$\overline{\text{V}}$	5 000
$\overline{\text{L}}$	50 000
$\overline{\text{CC}}$	200 000

## Vocal Nosh

Vocal Nosh is a community singing event that has been occurring monthly in Newstead for 20 years.

The next Vocal Nosh is on July 7th at 6 pm in the Newstead Community Centre and will be led by the talented Scott Sanders and Tara Flinn.

The cost is \$15 or \$12 concession and includes a meal of hearty soup, bread and fresh fruit. Children can attend free of charge.

No musical experience is necessary and there is no music to read. All are welcome to come along for a good sing and good food in convivial company.

Upcoming sessions will be on: July 7th, August 4th, September 1st and October 6th.

### Sacred Postnatal Harmony

Free postnatal planning workshop for expecting couples.

- Discover why new mothers often feel exhausted, overwhelmed and isolated and what to do about it.
- Learn how to get the support, sleep, love and confidence you need as a new mother
- Be inspired by traditional postpartum practices from around the world

As a postnatal doula, I support new mothers after birth.  
Learn to plan for after your baby arrives at my workshop in Castlemaine.

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## Weather and Water

In a Press Release at the start of July Coliban Water announced that allocations for the 2019/20 rural season will open at 100 per cent for all rural customers. Manager Regional Liveability Steve Healy said the water storages were in a good position for winter inflows thanks to recent rainfall which had “wet up” the catchment area.

Catchment levels at Malmsbury have come up considerably since the end of May, due to the saturation of the soil in May and the follow-up rain in June, and are very similar to the same time last year.

Our rainfall measured at Reservoir Road was 75 mm for June with the cumulative total of 213 mm being 2 mm down on last year at the same time. The 2017 reading was 262.5 mm at the end of June.

At this time of year, we often think that everything is bleak and there are few birds and bees, but if you have a winter flowering tree you will find all kinds of birds, from parrots to tiny honeyeaters, competing for the flowers. Below is a New Holland Honeyeater taking advantage of loquat flowers. The photo was taken towards the end of June.



Storage	Capacity at full supply megalitres	Current volume megalitres	Current volume % full	Volume same time last year megalitres	Volume same time last year % full
Upper Coliban	37,770	27,758	73.5%	28,510	75.5%
Lauriston	19,790	16,050	81.1%	15,670	79.2%
Malmsbury	12,034	2,364	19.6%	2,766	23.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,594</b>	<b>46,172</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	<b>46,946</b>	<b>67.5%</b>

Data from: [coliban.com.au/site/root/water\\_security/reservoirs.html](http://coliban.com.au/site/root/water_security/reservoirs.html) – July 4, 2019

## COLIBAN WATER PRICES TO REDUCE FROM 1 JULY

Coliban Water fees and charges for the 2019/20 financial year will reduce from Monday 1 July 2019.

Acting Managing Director Neville Pearce said the lower prices are the result of a five-year pricing plan which Coliban Water submitted to the Essential Services Commission in 2018.

“As part of our Pricing Submission we committed to keeping prices lower than inflation each year. We’re now into the second year of this pricing plan and it’s fantastic to pass on these cost reductions to our customers.

“Inflation is added to all Victorian water bills. Currently the cost of inflation is 1.3 per cent. From 1 July 2019, most of our prices will reduce by 1.8 per cent before the cost of inflation is added.

“What that means is that the majority of prices will actually reduce by 0.5 per cent. For a residential household with average water consumption of 188 kilolitres per year, they will see a \$24 reduction in their bill from \$1,357 to \$1,333”, Mr Pearce said.

“Charges for rural customers have also decreased in line with our other fees and charges. We have recently posted out a list of fees for modernised and un-modernised rural systems to our rural customers,” Mr Pearce said.

Please contact the Coliban Water Customer Support Team for more information on 1300 363 200.

The 2019/20 Schedule of Fees and Charges can be found online at [www.coliban.com.au](http://www.coliban.com.au)

*From a Press Release dated 28 June 2019*

## Keep the war on Fruit Fly Alive Winter jobs in the Garden to help Prevent Fruit Fly

- Prune fruit trees to a manageable height for ease of fruit picking and netting.
- Replace unwanted Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) host trees with non-host plants. (That is get rid of old fruit trees that you are not looking after.)
- Pick up any fallen fruit.
- In winter the risk of QFF is lower but winter fruits can provide a food source for overwintering fruit flies. These include apples, pears, quinces and pomegranates left hanging of trees and ripe winter citrus such as lemons, oranges, mandarins and grapefruit.



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# Grow Great Fruit — Early Winter is the Time to Collect Grafting Wood

Last month we talked about how fun and easy it is to graft your fruit trees, to grow your own trees for free, increase the diversity in your garden, and create multi-graft fruit trees.

This month is your reminder that the time to collect grafting wood (called scions) is while the trees are dormant – i.e., about now. The time between when last year's leaves fall off and next year's buds start swelling seems to get shorter every year, but it's better to collect the wood earlier rather than later, even if the leaves haven't completely fallen off, rather than risk waiting too long and collecting them when they've already started to swell.

Once collected, you need to store the grafting wood in the fridge until the sap starts moving in your fruit trees in early spring, which is the time when we do the actual grafting. It takes a bit of planning, but it's worth it.

Grafting is a fantastic way to turn a seedling or a sucker into a useful fruiting tree, and plum seedlings are one of the most useful, as they make a good rootstock for both plums and apricots. You can even graft peaches and nectarines onto plum rootstock, though it tends to be less successful (and needs to be done in summer, using the summer grafting technique known as 'budding').

## How to successfully collect scion wood:

1. First choose the new variety you want to grow. Try asking around your neighbours to find out their favourite and most successful varieties. That way you'll be growing something that you already know will grow well in our district. There's a list of some of the varieties we grow on the farm on the front page of our farm website ([www.mafg.com.au](http://www.mafg.com.au)) if you need inspiration.
2. Try to wait to collect the grafting wood until the trees are completely dormant (no leaves).
3. Collect strong, healthy pieces of one-year-old wood, i.e. the shoots that grew last summer. It's not hard to spot them – just start at the end of any shoot, and go back to where you can see an obvious join to the older wood that grew the year before.
4. Cut a few pieces, wrap them in plastic wrap or seal in a plastic bag. They don't have to be airtight, but it's important to make sure the wood won't dry out.
5. Here's the really important bit – label it! Then just store it somewhere cool like a cellar, or the fridge, until spring.

## Keep your worm farm warm in winter:

Worms don't like to be cold, so add an extra layer of insulation by covering with underfelt or old carpet, or if you only have a small worm farm, move it into a shed or the laundry to provide some extra protection from the elements. It's important to look after them or the worms will either die or escape if conditions get too dire!

Hugh and Katie Finlay are certified organic orchardists, and also teach organic home fruit growing. Their services include the free Weekly Fruit Tips newsletter, and free weekly webinars (online workshops) called "The 5 Key Steps to Growing Great Fruit" – sign up at [growgreatfruit.com/webinar-landing](http://growgreatfruit.com/webinar-landing). They also offer more than 50 online short courses and the year long Grow Great Fruit Home-study Program – visit [growgreatfruit.com](http://growgreatfruit.com) for details. They grow and sell fruit trees as Carr's Organic Fruit Tree Nursery, visit [mafg.com.au/trees](http://mafg.com.au/trees) and will be holding a Nursery Open Day on Sunday July 21, from 10 am to 4 pm.

## Wheel Cactus Field Day 28 July 2019

Our July field day will start at 10.30 am with a demo and a brief talk for any new Warriors before we set off for an hour or so injecting cacti, winding up with our usual tasty BBQ lunch, a cuppa and a chat.

The equipment – high-vis vest, protective gloves and goggles – will be provided for the morning. You will just need a hat, stout shoes, long pants and long sleeves. Children will be welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The venue will be announced on our website [www.cactuswarriors.org](http://www.cactuswarriors.org) closer to the date, or you can email: [info@cactuswarriors.org](mailto:info@cactuswarriors.org).

Francis Wade

## ASQ Plant of the Month Daphne

One of the best things about this time of year is the beautifully fragrant winter daphne.

Daphnes are an evergreen shrub which grow best in cool to temperate climates and can tolerate light frosts, making them perfect for Central Victorian gardens. Most daphne varieties grow to about one metre high and wide, making them a great option for both planting and pots.

Visit ASQ Skydancers to see their range of beautiful Daphnes!



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a Corner Langslow and Martin Streets, Castlemaine  
p 03 5472 4053 | e [castlemaine@asq.net.au](mailto:castlemaine@asq.net.au)

### Update on Plan Harcourt

The Strategic Planning team is in the analysis phase of Plan Harcourt. Over the past few months you may have seen the team out and about in Harcourt obtaining some on-ground observational data and meeting with members of the local heritage group. The draft Plan Harcourt document is expected to be finalised in the next few months and will be released for community discussion and feedback later this year. For more information please visit [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/PlanHarcourt](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/PlanHarcourt).

### Apply for a Council grant

Council will launch a new Events Grants program alongside its existing Community Grants Program in July. Council has traditionally supported events by providing logistical support, services and fee waivers on an event-by-event basis. The Events Grants program provides a transparent and equitable process for local groups and organisations to seek funding and in-kind support from Council. Information sessions will be held in Castlemaine on Wednesday 17 July (day and evening) and Maldon during the week of 22 July (day), details to be confirmed. To find out more visit [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Grants](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Grants) or call us on 5471 1700. The next round of Community and Event grants will open on Monday 22 July and close on Friday 9 August.

### Join our safety committee

Victoria Police and Council are calling for two community members and two local businesspeople to join the Mount Alexander Shire Safety Committee (MASSC). The committee has been established to provide advice to Council in relation to community safety issues. Members may have experience or interest in community safety, public health, community development, crime prevention, emergency services or have strong community networks. To apply for a place on the committee please read the Terms of Reference and complete an Expression of Interest available from [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/AdvisoryCommittee](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/AdvisoryCommittee). Submit your application by Friday 26 July. For more information contact Lisa Knight, Director Corporate and Community Services on 5471 1700 or [l.knight@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:l.knight@mountalexander.vic.gov.au).

### E-waste banned from landfill

Don't forget the Victorian Government has banned electronic waste (e-waste) from going to landfill from 1 July. Please don't throw it in the bin. You can drop off your e-waste at waste facilities in Castlemaine and Maldon. Fees apply.

**Civic Centre**

**Corner Lyttleton and Lloyd Streets  
P.O. Box 185 Castlemaine VIC 3450**

**t (03) 5471 1700**

**e [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au)**

**w [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au)**

## Castlemaine Bus Lines Harcourt Services Monday to Friday

	am	pm	pm
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:56	12:11	2:26
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:57	12:12	2:27
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	9:03	12:18	2:33
Halford St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	9:05	12:20	2:35
<b>From Castlemaine to Harcourt Monday to Friday</b>			
Castlemaine RSL/Mostyn St (Castlemaine)	8:45	12:00	2:15
Wimble St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	8:48	12:03	2:18
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:53	12:08	2:23
Coolstore Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:54	12:09	2:24
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25



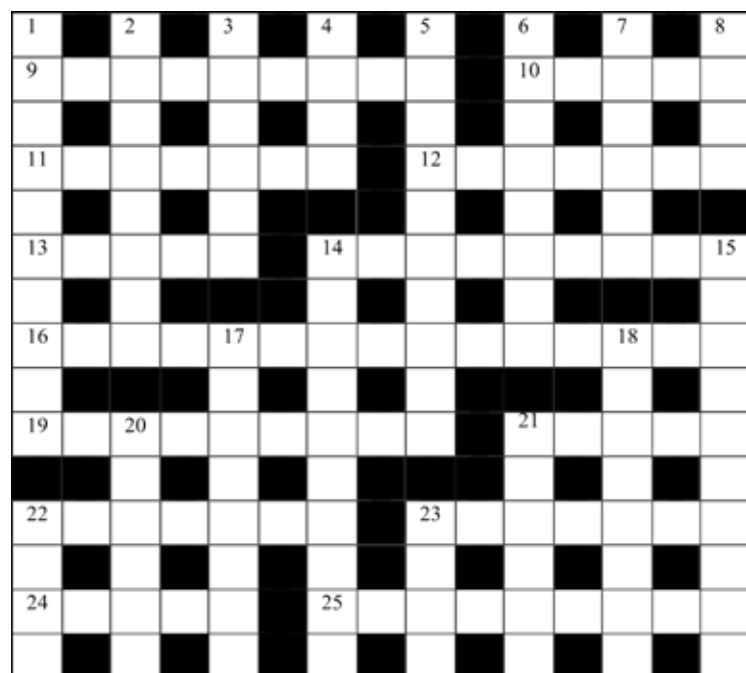
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## July crossword 2019 © McW Aug '17



### Down:

1. Perhaps such usage goads its owner? (7-3)
2. One who insists on putting an adhesive label round a learner? (8)
3. Empty proprietary sook may be spine-chilling. (6)
4. Employer puts us (erroneously) on his tax form and profits from us. (4)
5. Bored, perhaps, by aged design, we become switched-off as the gig deadens. (10)
6. How to make a bread roll smaller? (4,4)
7. Derek the first with ladder? (6)
8. (See 23)
14. Graven image ire cools manic breakages. (10)
15. After a rich husband in 1850s Bendigo? (4-6)
17. Scattier derivatives of weak organic acid. (8)
18. Early C16th woodcut occasions burning nostrils? (8)
20. First to be caught in 13? (6)
21. Hypnotic state induced by mother-of-pearl trembling below the junction. (6)
22. Sometimes a cause of 19. (4)
- 23, 8. Harm felt around mid-semester. (4-4)

### Across:

9. Out-of-tune pianist at the appetisers. (9)
10. Use rubber as eradicator. (5)
11. We hear gullible one giving aid. (7)
12. Musical affliction possibly affecting 23? (7)
13. Site of watercourse to trap 20. (5)
- 14, 22. Not as bad as shooting oneself in the foot, but the pain down there one may now get in original form. (2-7,7)
16. Head Honcho ordering treacle. (8-7)
19. 3dn example may appear in dictionary without denotation. (5-4)
21. A dirty endless bunch of pitches stackable vertically in thirds. (5)
22. (See 14)
23. Court appearance possibly affected by 12? (7)
24. Sounds a bit like what Dougal Graham wanted at any price. (5)
25. "Picky" is the pejorative... (9)

## June Xword 2019 solution © McW June '17



### Down:

1. Prepare cake mixture and shoot through? [Well?]
2. [Ship me here] over the equator. [10]
3. Observer of wet bells? [Well? The dogs salivated on them...]
4. [Smarter I collect] the washing and bring it in from this shocking weather. [10,5]
5. Electron-loser [ion] under bounds-setting claim has strong drive to succeed. [8]
6. Extent of surface sounds more breezy! [4]
7. [A lot on in] his head, but it's only in his head... [8]
13. [Nice lout is] a bit immoral. [10]
15. Stern matron [bristled] at the bits of drool. [8]
16. Wave the claymore about in breakfast cereal. [8]
20. Cleave in two one deviating religious group within LGBTQI. [Well?]
21. The misal verses are found on a tray when the ladies are gone. [6]
23. Requirement, possibly because of want. [4]

### Across:

8. Will [large wombat ever] come to terms with burgeoning growth in the garden? [9,6]
9. Prison for the French needle-users? [OzOED]
10. [Cacti-clad] I feel a build-up of this during strenuous exercise. [6,4]
11. [Proves to] be a longer-term transit lounge... [4-4]
12. Where wizard is, and the heather [ling], doing nothing... [6]
14. Sounds of self-promotion for hewers. [4]
16. Really bringing it home to start the scientific revolution? [Francis...]
17. Temperature of a thinner type of 14 used on metal. (4)
18. Porcine mates squeeze into middle row at the flicks. [6]
19. Bees with élan might collect from these cedars. [8]
22. They may leave the [lads in debt] if they overcome the [blasted din] to entertain these ladies. [5,5]
24. What the protagonist of 12 is? [Well?]
25. Pressure breaks for [Custer's star serf]

# Community Diary Dates

**Thursday 11 July:** 7.30 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall.

**Sunday 7 July:** 10 am to 12 Roundabout Planting. Contact Sha: 0422 206 361.

**Monday 15 July:** Term 3 commences.

**Sunday 21 July:** 1.30 to 4 pm Fireside Chat, Mapping: Projections, Politics and Poetry, ANA Hall.

**Wednesday 24 July:** 6 pm AGM Harcourt Progress Association, ANA Hall

**Sunday 28 July:** 10 am to 12 midday; Harcourt Valley Landcare Working Bee. Wetland Planting Preparation, contact Secretary: 0467 670 271.

**Bowling Club Dates:** See page 12

**Carpet Bowls:** Wednesday nights at 7.15 at the Harcourt Leisure Centre until the end of September.

**Heritage Centre:** Open every Wednesday at the ANA Hall from 10 am to 4 pm or by appointment. Call : 0400 916 527.

**Pony Club:** Second and fourth Sundays of the month from 9.30 am to 12 midday. Next to swimming pool.

**Walking Group:** Every Monday and Thursday at 9.30 am. Meet at the ANA Hall.

**Uniting Church:** Every Sunday at 9 am in the Uniting Church, Buckley Street Harcourt, followed by morning tea. All welcome.

**CWA:** First Thursday of the month; 1.30 pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre.

**Harcourt Lions Club:** Meetings every third Friday of the month at 7.30pm at the Victorian Miniature Railway, Harmony Way. For further information, contact Di Selwood 0488 148 358.



## Maree Edwards MP

State Member for Bendigo West

*Putting Community First*

If you have any State or Local Government issue  
please contact my office for assistance

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### The Harcourt News/The Core is Published by the Harcourt Progress Association Inc.

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A full colour version of *Harcourt News: The Core* is available on the Harcourt Community website: <http://harcourt.vic.au/news>

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***The views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, nor of the Steering Committee of the Harcourt Progress Association. No endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.***

## Upcoming Cycle Races in and Around Harcourt

### *Bendigo and District Cycling Club Races:*

- Sunday 14th July: Harcourt Classic. Starts and finishes at Emu Creek Hall. The race enters Harcourt from the Faraday Sutton Grange Road and then goes along Harmony Way, McIvor Road and the North Harcourt Road.

### *Castlemaine Cycling Club*

- Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July: Junior Cycling Tour: Castlemaine Cycling Club in conjunction with Cycling Victoria will hold a Junior Tour based in the ANA Hall in Harcourt on 27th and 28th July. Cyclists and their families will travel from across Victoria to compete in these selection races, for the Victorian State Junior Team, to compete in the National Championships on the Gold Coast in September. Many of the big name Victorian cyclists of today have gained very valuable experience in these junior tours, and this 3 Stage tour will cater for riders in Under 11, 13, 15 and 17.

Racing will commence 9 am Saturday with a Time Trial. Cyclists will travel south on Harmony Way to a "U" turn and return to the finish line in Harcourt and Saturday afternoon will see racing, north and south of Harcourt on Harmony Way. The tour will finish on Sunday morning when cyclists take on the tough 12km course of Market St/Reservoir Rd/McIvor Rd and Harmony Way, while others travel the distance north on Harmony Way to a turnaround point near the freeway before turning onto the 12 km circuit.

There will be no road closures, but there will be some reduction in speed limits on the courses for the duration of racing.

Members of the community are very welcome to come down watch racing as these budding riders show off their skills and fitness to the selectors.

- Saturday 3 August: TBA
- Saturday 14 September: Ken Maddern Memorial
- Saturday 28 September: Hill Climb or Time Trial

**THE BIKE VAULT - JUNIOR TOUR**  
3 STAGES - HARCOURT  
27 & 28 JULY 2019

the Bike Vault

Castlemaine CYCLING CLUB

# HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Harcourt Progress Association is an incorporated association, governed by Rules which comply with the Victorian Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. It is a member based organisation which encourages active participation and contribution and conducts regular public meetings to further a variety of goals and projects. Members are able to join working groups and sub-committees and pursue specific areas of interest or initiate projects which align with the organisation's goals.

Harcourt Progress Association Inc. aims to:

- Support and encourage initiatives which benefit and strengthen the Harcourt community.
- Strengthen community connections by promoting local sporting, educational, recreational and cultural activities.
- Encourage, support and acknowledge the role and contribution of volunteers within Harcourt.

Membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. is open to all residents and landowners within a 20kms radius of the Harcourt Township - some exceptions apply - do enquire. There is no joining fee for the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. but an annual subscription of \$20 per person / \$10 concession is payable to become a financial member who is then able to formally vote and join the Steering Committee. Annual subscriptions fall due on 1<sup>st</sup> July each year. Any renewals or new memberships paid in 2018 will be valid until the end of June 2019.

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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I request to become or renew my membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. (please circle one). I agree to be bound by its Rules of Association and Codes of Conduct. I understand that only financial members have voting rights.

☐ Financial member: full fee \$20   ☐ Financial member: concession fee \$10   ☐ Non-financial member: no charge

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

TELEPHONE:.....EMAIL:.....

SIGNED:.....DATED:.....

☐ I enclose the sum of \$20/\$10 Concession for Annual Membership  
Please mail this completed form and payment to HPA Inc, PO Box 132, HARCOURT, VIC 3453   **OR**

☐ I have deposited \$20/\$10 Concession into BSB 633-000, Account: 151337409.  
Please indicate your name and state "Membership" when paying online.

*This application will be submitted for determination by the Harcourt Progress Association Steering Committee and the applicant will be advised of the outcome of their application pursuant to the Rules of the Association.*